

THE PRESBYTERIAN OF THE SOUTH

VOL. I.

ATLANTA, GA., JULY 28, 1909.

NO. 31.

This Week

	Page.
The Central University Case.....	4
Safe and Happy Marriages.....	4
Protracted Services.....	5
Notes in Passing.....	6
Does the Church Desire to Narrow Its Foundation?..	7
The Best Method.....	8
Was Not Calvin Right?.....	8
"No More Sea".....	9
The Harp of the Heart.....	10
Baptist History as Established in Their Recent Writings	16
Evangelistic Notes From Northern Brazil.....	24

Editorial Notes

The habit of storing the mind with rich Scripture passages is one that becomes easier and easier as one practices it. The sweetness and comfort of it increases as well. The Word of God becomes more and more rich.

Half a century ago, Rev. Dr. R. J. Breckinridge said that in fifty years—such was the march of error—New England would need missionaries. Last winter many of the Boston ministers opposed the coming of Dr. Chapman as an evangelist, because he preached atonement by the death of Jesus.

The Times-Democrat, of New Orleans, which recently attacked Chinese missions in a long, sharply written editorial, basing its attack largely upon an alleged statement of Sir Robert Hart, Director General of Chinese Customs, has made handsome withdrawal of its circulation of a misquotation and "corrects the record, in justice to all concerned.

Sir Robert Hart, for many years in charge of Chinese Customs, has lately been quoted as expressing the opinion that "not one Chinaman has ever been converted to Christianity, no matter what the missionaries may believe or say." Sir Robert Hart has, over his own signature denied having ever made any such statement, and on the contrary bears unequivocal testimony to the faithfulness and martyr spirit of the Chinese Christians, and declares that in some places preaching and teaching are followed quickly and conspicuously by success, and that the "Word of Life" is nowhere sown on barren soil.

With the alleged testimony of Sir Robert Hart against missions positively denied, and even reversed, and with the facts now declared to be true that Miss Sigel, of New York, never taught in a Chinese Christian Mission School and that her brutal slayer was not a professed Christian convert at all, those secular papers which read the Church such oracular "Lessons of the Sigel Murder" have absolutely nothing to stand upon. In common justice they should acknowledge that they was both prejudiced and mislead.

A question of vital importance is likely to come before the next meeting of the General Assembly, North. Some weeks ago, in the Presbytery of New York, three young men applied for licensure who dissent radically from Presbyterian doctrine. For instance, when asked whether Paul does not teach the fall of man, one of them replied, "Yes, but there is where I differ from Paul." The Presbytery at first declined to license them, but some days later, it licensed these men to preach. Thereupon the "Congregationalist" proclaimed to the world that Presbyterians are no longer bound by the Confession of Faith.

A month or two later, one of these young men applied for ordination. Without any change of his views, as we understand from our exchanges, the Presbytery ordained him to the ministry. Thereupon one member of the Presbytery made complaint to the higher courts. We suppose that the complaint will come before the Synod of New York this Fall, and before the General Assembly, North, in May next. Its effect will be to bring the question to a full decision whether that Church will tolerate such laxity in subscription to the Confession.

The "Cumberland Presbyterian" of Nashville, Tenn., which (as we understand) is owned by the Northern Presbyterian Church, stresses the difference between the two Churches in these words:

"The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, while it requires its ministers and officials to accept the Westminster Confession as revised in 1903, "as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures," places great emphasis upon liberty of belief. But we think we are not in error in stating that the Southern Presbyterian Church places its emphasis upon strict creed subscription."

To what extent this is true will appear when the next General Assembly shall pass upon this issue from the Presbytery of New York.

A judicious and prominent elder in the Northern Presbyterian Church was addressed by a friend as follows: "Of all the religious papers published in our country do you know of a really Christian paper in the list." The answer was: "Yes, **The Presbyterian of the South** is such a paper." We regard this as a valuable tribute to the spirit and aim of our publication. Our supreme endeavor is to promote Christian faith, life and character in the homes of our people, in our churches and in society at large. We desire to be the ally of the pastors and sessions, of parents and teachers, of all true believers and workers. We would exalt the authority of the Scriptures, exhibit the beauty of Christian truth and stimulate Christian activity. We would incite our people to zeal for their Master and loyalty to His kingdom. In so far as we can accomplish this end shall we succeed in the service that we seek to render.